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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Military Developments in the Leningrad Area: Military Geographical Commissions / Telephone Security Regulations / 'Per-Ok' Periscope

PLACE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE)

25X1

DATE DISTR. 3 MAY 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO

REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Military Geographical Commission

1. "At Leningrad there is a Leningrad Commission of Military Geography. Its chairman is Rear-Admiral E. E. Shveda. The 1st Secretary is Captain of the 1st rank A. V. Osipov. This Commission has a special mission: the investigation and study of military-geographical factors of the countries situated around the Baltic and Arctic Seas. The Commission collects every kind of data on the economic and moral potential of such countries, and on their physical and geographical nature. Using such data, it compiles 'military-geographical communiques' (svodki) which are distributed to all military training establishments and schools and to all headquarters of the Soviet Armed Forces.
2. "In the European part of the USSR there is also a Moscow Commission of Military Geography and Kiev Commission of Military Geography.
3. "All three Commissions are closely connected with the VGO (Vsesoyuznoe Gheograficheskoe Obshchestvo - All-Union Geographical Society) in Moscow.

Military Telephone Security Regulations

4. "According to an instruction issued to the Soviet Armed Forces in 1953, the rules for telephone conversation over the Armed Forces networks are as follows:
 - (a) Telephone conversations easily lend themselves to listening by a third party. Therefore discipline and secrecy in the talks are essential when using the telephone.
 - (b) It is forbidden to call stations or persons openly. All calls must be made by 'call signs' agreed upon in advance.
 - (c) When one station calls another connected with it by direct line,

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the call sign of the station called must be mentioned immediately after the call signal, e. g., 'The Seventh' or 'hawk', etc.; the station called answers with its call sign, e. g., 'the seventh is listening' or 'hawk is listening', etc. After the call the station making it must give its call sign, e. g., 'the eighth speaking' or 'raven speaking'.

- (d) If intermediate stations are used for a call, the intermediate station must be called and the first station's own call sign given with the request to call the final station required, e. g., 'Here Kuibyshev, call Kharkov'.
- (e) If stations are connected through a 'commutator', the telephone operator calls the TSTs (commutator) and, after it has answered, mentions the required number or a call sign.
- (f) The calling of official personages to the telephone is effected only through the 'table of call signs for official personages', which must be found at every telephone station, e. g., 'Ask oak to come to the telephone, birch is asking for him'. When the person called is at the telephone, the operator informs the station called Sig7: 'I am handing the receiver to oak'.

'Per-Ok' Periscope

5. For the observation of trenches, shelters, covers, etc., a new periscope has been put into use, the so-called 'Per-Ok' (periskop okonny - window periscope). Its specifications include:

Periscopicity (periskopnost) 1 : 1.5 (m.) (has two bends)

Magnification 6 x

Field of vision 8° 5'

Illumination 25

The 'Per-Ok' turns around on its axis: horizontally 360° vertically ± 30°

This periscope is attached to a tripod. It has a rubber-eye-piece and various light filters. For protection from rain and sunlight and for camouflage the head is provided with a cover.

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